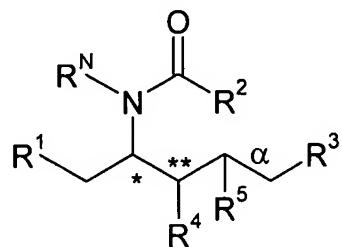


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows

1. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising:
- (i) a drug; and
 - (ii) a short-chain sphingolipid selected from compounds of the following formula:



wherein:

R¹ is independently:

- an O-linked saccharide group; or
- an O-linked polyhydric alcohol group;

or:

R¹ is independently:

- an O-linked (optionally N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-substituted amino)-C₁₋₆alkyl-phosphate group; or
- an O-linked (polyhydric alcohol-substituted)-C₁₋₆alkyl-phosphate group;

R² is independently C₃₋₉alkyl,

and is independently unsubstituted or substituted;

R^3 is independently C_{7-19} alkyl,

and is independently unsubstituted or substituted;

R^4 is independently -H, -OH, or -O- C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^N is independently -H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

the bond marked with an alpha (α) is independently a single bond or a double bond;

if the bond marked with an alpha (α) is a double bond, then R^5 is -H;

if the bond marked with an alpha (α) is a single bond, then R^5 is -H or -OH;

the carbon atom marked (*) is independently in an R-configuration or an S-configuration;

the carbon atom marked (**) is independently in an R-configuration or an S-configuration;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, esters, ethers, chemically protected forms thereof.

Claims 2-91. (Cancelled)